

LIMITED SOURCES JUSTIFICATION

For Stellar Solutions, Inc.

(In accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 8.405-6(b)(1))

1. Identification of the Agency and the contracting activity, and specific identification of the document as a "Limited Source Justification".

The NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center proposes to enter into a contract with Stellar Solutions, Palo Alto, CA. This document justifies the determination for restricting consideration of schedule contractors to fewer than required in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 8.405-1 or 8.405-2.

2. Describe the nature and/or description of the actions being approved.

This justification authorizes the issuance of an order to Stellar Solutions to provide Mission Assurance, Risk Management, and Launch Vehicle Interface systems engineering services for the Ice, Cloud and Land Elevation (ICESat-2) Mission.

3. Describe the supplies or services required to meet the agency's needs. Include the estimated value.

Mission Assurance, Risk Management, and Launch Vehicle Interface systems engineering services in support of the design, assembly, test, transportation and launch site support of the Ice, Cloud and Land Elevation (ICESat-2) Mission. Cost is estimated at \$3,926,107.

4. Identify the regulatory authority justifying restriction. Include information sufficient to demonstrate the proposed contractor's unique qualifications to provide the required supply or service, or the nature of the acquisition requires use of the authority cited.

The statutory authority is FAR 8.405-6 (b) (3), Only One Source. Stellar Solutions has provided critical mission assurance, risk management and launch vehicle interface systems engineering support for GSFC's ICESat-2 Project since fiscal year 2010. Significant knowledge of the design and operations concept of the ICESat-2 mission and ATLAS instrument now resides with Stellar Solutions as the ATLAS instrument and ICESat-2 Project continue towards their respective critical design and preliminary design reviews in calendar year 2012. Loss of Stellar's insight and experience at this critical stage would introduce unnecessary risk and potential schedule delays into program. The ICESat-2 Project (Stellar Solutions contractor) is in the early planning stages with the Kennedy Space Center Launch Service Program (KSC LSP) to issue a Launch Service Task Order (LSTO) for a dedicated launch service for ICESat-2. This is a 6 month process that would be delayed if the Project were to lose the support of Stellar Solutions. Failure of the Project to secure a launch service in time to support the mission design phase will impact the spacecraft and instrument design costs and potentially effect the Project's launch readiness date.

5. A determination by the contracting officer that the order represents the best value consistent with FAR 8.404(d).

Services offered on the Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) are priced either at hourly rates or at a fixed price for performance of a specific task (such as installation, maintenance, or repair). It is anticipated that the work under this order will be performed at hourly rates. GSA has already determined the prices of fixed price services and rates of services offered at hourly rates, under schedule contracts to be fair and reasonable. Additionally, the Government will ask for any other available discounts (in accordance with FAR 8.405-4) prior to the award of an order. These combined efforts will result in the Government

receiving the best value (as defined in FAR 2.101) and the lowest overall cost alternative to meet the Government's needs.

This order will be placed in accordance with the terms and conditions of GSA contract GS-23F-0225K.

6. Describe the market research conducted (see FAR Part 10) among schedule holders and the results, or state why market research was not conducted.

Internet searches were conducted for the specific engineering skills and applicable experience qualifications and the searches did not produce any sources that met the ICESat-2 Project's specific requirements. Also the project has knowledge of the industry and based on this knowledge there are no other known sources.

7. Any other facts supporting the use of limited sources justification.

The requested systems engineering support requires direct experience related to the design and operations concept of the ATLAS instrument and ICESat-2 mission. Under the proposed period of performance for this procurement, the ATLAS Instrument Team will conduct their critical design review and complete instrument level assembly, integration and test. The ICESat-2 Project will complete their Preliminary Design (PDR) and Key Decision Point C (KDP-C) Reviews in the summer of 2012 and a critical component of those reviews is the identification and accommodation of the launch service to be used for the ICESat-2 Observatory. The current work being performed by Stellar Solutions in these areas must continue to avoid impacting the Project's budget and schedule as described above in Section 4. In addition, the processing of critical documentation related to safety and mission assurance (SMA) and instrument risk management would be delayed if the Project were to lose the support and expertise currently provided by Stellar Solutions.

Any other source for these engineering services would require significant time to understand the design of the mission and ATLAS instrument as well as the complex nature of the launch service acquisition. This "learning curve" would likely result in additional costs and potentially delay the successful completion of the ICESat-2 Mission.

8. State the actions, if any that the Agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers to schedule competition before any subsequent acquisition for the supplies or services are required.

There are no actions in place to overcome barriers to competition in subsequent acquisitions as every possible effort has been made to include all schedule holders under this FSS. Any subsequent acquisition for these services would be given the same level of schedule analysis as schedule holders and the products and services they provide can change over time. In the interest of fair opportunity, a Request for Information would also be sent to all schedule holders at the time of the need for a subsequent acquisition.

TECHNICAL DIRECTORATE:

I certify that the facts presented in this Justification are accurate and complete.



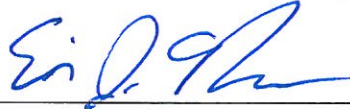
Signature

1-17-12

Date

CONTRACTING OFFICER:

I certify that this Justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. In accordance with FAR 8.405-6 (f) (1), this certification also serves as approval of this Justification.

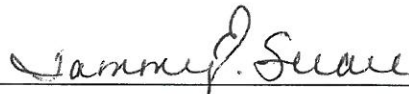


Signature

1/13/12

Date

ASSOCIATE PROCUREMENT
OPERATIONS DIVISION:
(CONCURRENCE)



Signature

1/17/12

Date